

Marlowe Belanger is 'first citizen'

FARMINGTON — Mrs. Marlowe Belanger, president of the Farmington Community Arts Council, was named Farmington's Citizen of the Year by the Farmington Chamber of Commerce at its annual dinner Thursday.

"I am deeply honored, I take this award very seriously," she said. She is the first woman to be named recipient of the "citizen" award.

Previous winners included Ronald Holland, North Farmington coach; Louis Gilson and Dr. Robert Douglass. This year was also the first year a posthumous award was presented, to the family of scout leader George DeCourcy.

Arts have been the focus of Mrs. Belanger's activities in Farmington.

Now serving a second year as president of the arts council, she has been active in its many activities.

She organized, coordinated and scheduled the Exposure to the Arts series in five junior and three high schools,

bringing in experts in the fine arts to make presentations at least once a month during the school year. She also worked on such

projects as the community calendar, ArtStart, Exposure to the Arts for adults; New Frontier Series; Operation

Continued on Page 3

Meet is coming up for young gymnasts

The 'Gym-J's', girls' gymnastic team of the Farmington YMCA, remains undefeated as they enter their third league meet of the year Feb. 9 against the Oakland Y at Mercy Center.

The 10 - member Farmington squad, ranging in age from six to 15 years, captured the title in their first year of play last year in the Metropolitan YMCA - YWCA League.

So far this season they have defeated the Birmingham Y and Downriver Y.

Coached by Jim and Carolyn Hafke, they compete by age groups in four events:

floor exercise, balance beam, uneven bars and vault. Meets and practices are held at Mercy Center, 11 Mile and Middle Belt in Farmington.

After the Oakland competition, the girls will travel to the district meet Feb. 17 at Findlay, Ohio, then the regional meet March 16 at Dayton, Ohio.

The remaining schedule calls for play with the Livonia Y on April 6 at Mercy Center, the Metro Y team meet April 21 at Mercy Center and the Great Lakes Invitational April 27 at Harrison High School in Farmington.



Citizen of the year

MARLOWE BELANGER is congratulated by her husband, Roger, and her two children Ann and Bryan for being honored as 'Farmington's citizen of the year'. (Photo by Ralph Evert)

Scout leader

George DeCourcy's memory honored

"Troop 116 will miss him. Clinton Valley Council will miss him. Baptist Manor will miss him. His family will miss him, and I miss him!" The plaintive eulogy to George R. DeCourcy, written by 11 - year - old Scott Pollins, a West Bloomfield member of DeCourcy's scout

troop, inspired the Farmington Chamber of Commerce to posthumously honor the well - known scoutmaster's citizenship.

DeCourcy's family received the honor, the first time the committee has made a posthumous presentation, at the chamber's an-

ual dinner Thursday evening.

Pollins letter is a moving tribute to the strong feelings DeCourcy's work in the Farmington Community raised.

"Mr. DeCourcy was always ready to do his share plus the share of two or three others if needed," the scout added.

"He helped organize troop 116 almost 16 years ago and helped nearly 70 boys reach the eagle award."

DeCourcy was a past president and member of the executive board of the Clinton Valley Council Boy Scouts of America and holder of the silver beaver award, scouting's highest award for volunteer leaders.

He was also acting president of the Detroit Baptist Manor and chairman for three years of its property committee. He was also a member of the board of directors.

DeCourcy worked with Little League and the Frank-

lin Knolls Improvement Assn. He had two sons, Kim and Norman, both of whom

became eagle scouts, and a daughter, Debra.

An engineer with Michigan

Bell, he lived with his family at 32770 Briarcrest. When he died on New Years, he was 55.



GEORGE DECOURCY

"Troop 116 will miss him, his family will miss him, and I miss him."

--Scott Pollins

what's inside

Metrics are coming 3A
Mischakoff featured 5A
Senate eyes recycling bill 10B

Classified Ads 1-9B
Community Calendar 3A
Deaths 10
Leisure 4-7
Observing Life 11,12
Religion 8-10
Ski Heil! 15
Sports 14-16
Turf Tips 14